

THE CAYLEY HUSTLER

VOL. 11, No. 50

CAYLEY, ALTA., DEC. 20, 1911

SUBSCRIPTION \$1.00 A YEAR

F. F. Macdonald

Notary Public
CAYLEY - ALTA.

A. J. Arnold

Barriester, Solicitor, Notary Public, etc.

MONEY TO LOAN

High River - Alta.

YOUR FRIENDS

would appreciate a

Waterman Fountain Pen

as a Christmas Gift

We have a full line of Christmas and New Year Post Cards, Booklets, Boxed Cards, Stationery, Books, Toilet Articles, Fancy Goods, etc.

Buy early before they are picked over

THE CAYLEY DRUG STORE

Dr. A. O. BROWN, Prop.

MONEY TO LOAN

on

Farm Property

Lowest current rates

Roberts & Hunt

High River

L. Beaton

Wholesale and Retail Butcher.

FRESH & SMOKED MEATS

of all kinds

Poultry, Fish, Canned Hone.
3.50 per cwt

Cash paid for Furs and Hides.

WHEN IN NEED

of a

Hot Lunch

call at

THE BAKERY

Have you ever tried

O X O ?

Ask about it

Jas. Anderson

Presbyterian Church

CAYLEY

Sunday school at 10:15 a.m.

Public worship, 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

MEADOWBANK

Sunday school at 2:30 o'clock

Public worship at 3:15

REV. M. BEATON, Pastor

Methodist Church

CAYLEY

Service every Sunday at 7:30 o'clock.

Sunday school. Adult class at 3 p.m.

Prayer service every Wednesday evening at 8:00 p.m.

FOOKS

Preaching every Sunday at 11:00 a.m.

ZEPIER SCHOOL.

Sunday School at 2 p.m.

Preaching service at 3 p.m.

To each and all services the public are urged to attend.

REV. OLIVER E. MANN, Pastor.

Church of England

Services every second Sunday

afternoon at 3 o'clock, in Mac-

Donald's Hall.

REV. MR. HENCHIE, Pastor

TAUBE

Eye-Sight Specialist

(of Taube Optical Co.)

132 8th Ave. E., Calgary

Will visit this town every two months

For date enquire at Drug Store.

All Work Absolutely Guaranteed

The Cayley Hustler.

Published every Wednesday
Subscription price, \$1.00 a year
in advance
Single copy, 5 cents

A. NICHOLSON, Editor

For first-class Job Printing, try the Hustler.

TIMELY TOPICS

A HAPPY CHRISTMAS

Christmas is becoming a world-wide institution. The more nations and peoples become christianized the more they will observe the one great festival of the year, the anniversary of the Christ of peace and love. It frequently happens, however, that as Christmas approaches, so much are our minds turned toward the "Peace on Earth" idea that we note in a very special manner the opposites. This year we note the great unrest and bloodshed in China. We note also the still very uncomfortable feeling between England and Germany. Russia and Persia also have certain bickerings that are very noticeable. And now the United States lodges a complaint against Russia because that unwieldy and backward country will not allow that freedom to American subjects which America allows to Russian subjects. Also that Russia discriminates sorely against American born Jews who enter that country.

Still we must keep on striving for "Peace on Earth." It is no man's duty to try and make war for the sake of war. Indeed, the nations of to-day are seeking to eliminate the arbitration of the sword as much as possible, and all owing to the Christ of Christmas, who came on earth to bring peace between God and man, and between man and man. It was the Christ of Bethlehem who held forth the great example of love; it was Him who urged his followers to love one another as He loved them, and He loved them unto death. About the easiest way to secure a Happy Christmas is to set about making somebody else happy, and there is no better way. Don't wait for somebody else to stir you up to happiness with a smile or a gift, but start to do that very thing yourself, and happiness is assured.

THE GREAT DURBAR

King George of England is now in reality Emperor of India; and all the great Indian princes have loyally acknowledged him as such. The proclamation was a grand affair, and will go down in history as a very great success. As is usual on great state occasions, the event was marked by royal ceremony. Many persons who were in prison through debt on account of poverty, were released. One million and a half dollars will be used to alleviate distress among the poor. It was also stated that the capital of India is to be removed from Calcutta to Delhi, the scene of the coronation. Whether this is a good move or not we who are so far from that country can hardly say, but already some little discontent is manifested in the English papers, but this is no more than can be expected. It is evidently a move in line with the grant of greater liberty in self-government, which was also mentioned.

India is a great country, her people are a great people, and a small amount of self-government is no doubt owing to them. Be-

cause of the many factions, the great hindrances of caste and other difficulties peculiar to that country, self-government, as we know it, cannot be thought of perhaps for many decades. But India is moving ahead, and it is very evident that British rule has been the salvation of that wonderful country.

THE CARE OF INEBRIATES

Mr. Lancey, the Edmonton, Chief of Police, has brought out a scheme that is likely to be tried in that city. Its purpose is to care for the inebriates. His idea is to have a kind of receiving house for such men. Patrols will scour the streets for the incapables and take them to this receiving house instead of the prison. They will be forced to remain there until the effects of the drink have passed away, or at any rate for a few days, and will then be sent home. The scheme is a good one, for many men have been taken up from the streets in an incapable condition and thrown into prison, and grievous suffering has resulted. Now they will have proper expert medical attention.

THE SIFTON RAILWAY POLICY

Whether they deserve it or not the Sifton Government is congratulating itself upon its stupendous railroad policy; and they assure us that there are now 2,300 miles of railroads projected. So far so good. Railroads are sometimes a blessing and sometimes the reverse. There is one thing about that railroad policy, and that is, there would possibly have been quite as large a railroad policy if the other-side had gone in power as there is now. And another thing is, in a country like this no government is worth a cent that has not a progressive policy, because the country positively must progress, and whoever stands in its way will be swept off his feet. One important thing that should be considered is, no government should be too free in giving away what by right belongs to the people. Going mad after railroads to secure popularity means nearly all the benefits will be the railroads', and presently they will just bleed the settler and the farmer for all they are worth. Railroad companies and express companies possess too much gall these days. Railroads should always be subservient to the country, and therefore to the government.

Does Cayley Need Improvements?

A few weeks ago, about the time when "Father Sun" began to smile down upon the prosperous farmers of Cayley and spread through his radiant energies volunuous quantities of heat and light, I chanced to be riding over one of the elevations west of Cayley. Upon looking around, one of the finest scenes that could be produced by nature was presented to my view. For miles and miles around could be seen the prairie clad with its picturesque uniform of stocks, the smoke of the engines, the hustling to and fro of the bundle wagons, while the different whistles aroused the stillness of the surrounding air. The longer I gazed upon the scene the more clearly I could imagine the poet's thoughts when, after watching the current of the winding river, he exclaimed, "Who can paint like nature?"

All the credit in the production of such a sumptuous picture is

The Farmer's Store, Cayley

Headquarters for Santa Claus

Old Santa Claus has just left us a large and splendid assortment of goods suitable for Christmas and New Year Presents for Men, Women and Children

Clothes, Shoes, Hats, Caps, Furs, Ties, Etc.,
For the Men and Women

TOYS, Etc., for the Children in abundance

Fresh Stock of Groceries, Fruits, Nuts, Etc.

Come in and see for yourselves

L. R. CASPELL

due to the enterprising farmers of Cayley.

Let us next draw our attention to the village of Cayley itself. Here is Cayley surrounded by what is generally recognized as the greatest farming district in Alberta, and one of the greatest exporting points in Western Canada. Here is Cayley favored by good scenery, good water, good location, and everything that nature can provide.

Here is Cayley absolutely full of young people who either reside in the village or come in from the country to spend a day or evening or to have a social gathering with their friends. The young men who despise loafing around the stores must fix their abode in the so-called pool room. But what about the ladies? The ladies cannot play pool, as there is too much science about the game. Eventually they must parade the sidewalks with their friends in order to have a chat. Now, the question I might ask is this: Have these ladies to stay at home because there is no appropriate place for them to meet? I say "No." What we need in Cayley is a small, well furnished, modern reading room, built on one of the many choice lots, and provided with approved magazines and suitable reading material, (Eye-

Openers excluded) such as would keep the old as well as the young in touch with current events of to-day. I admit that very few, if any, villages the size of Cayley are furnished with such rooms, but we must remember that Cayley is in a class by itself, and it is up to it to be an example for the rest of the towns.

Now, an advocate for young people's rights of this place, I appeal to the residents to take the matter into their careful consideration, and I think you will have to admit that it will be one of the most beneficial factors towards the growth of Cayley and will be highly appreciated by young and old. Thus you can sanely head your local and general news with "Watch Cayley grow."

—NIOBE.

Cayley Laundry

Mrs. Stanway has opened the old Laundry at Cayley

First Class Work Guaranteed—
Clothes Sponged and Pressed

A Trial Solicited

Cayley's Market

Butter 40

Eggs 35

L. R. Caspell

Residence on 1st Street
CAYLEY - ALBERTA

Christmas is Coming

But we are here with a good supply of useful Presents at the best price

Brass Candle Sticks
Carving Sets
Gillette Safety Razors
Razors, Straps and Brushes
Cameras
Carpet Sweepers

Silver Knives, Forks and Spoons
Crumb Trays and Brushes
Skates
Complete Hockey Outfits
Jack Knives
Meat Choppers, etc.

McMeekin & Scragg

General Hardware, Furniture, Etc.

WINTER WEAR

Infants' Bear Skin Coats from \$2.00 to \$3.25
Infants' Sweater Coats . . . 90 to 1.25
Children's Coats 2.25 to 9.75
Ladies' Long and Short Sweaters 3.00 to 5.00
Ladies' Underwear 70 to 2.00
Men's Sweater Coats 1.65 to 2.75
Men's Overcoats 16.00
Men's Suits 6.00 to 25.00

Special Orders for Suits if required

Men's Sheep-lined Coats . . . 7.50 to 13.00
Men's Underwear 1.50 to 3.50

GLOVES, CAPS, ETC.

Fall Stock

Moderate Prices

F. F. McDONALD

DOCKS

A rich man's son has been arrested for speeding. He was going at such a fast pace that he ran over his allowance.

HOW'S THIS?
We offer the following reward for any one who can tell us the name of the man who was arrested for speeding. The reward will be \$100.00. The man who was arrested for speeding was a rich man's son. He was going at such a fast pace that he ran over his allowance.

Mrs. Nured-Mary, for dinner I think we have boiled mutton with caper sauce. Are there any capers in the house?

Mary-No, sir.
Mrs. Nured-Then go out in the garden and cut some.

**RELIEF IS QUICK;
BUT CURE IS SURE**

**NAPOLÉON VAILLANTCOURT
SPEAKS OF DODD'S KIDNEY
PILLS.**

They soon cured his kidney troubles, and in six months there is no sign of their coming back.
"I am sure that Napoleon Vail-
lancourt (specialist) is a fine doctor. He is cured, and I have had no return of my trouble." In these words Napoleon Vailancourt, a well known resident of this place, gives evidence that Dodd's Kidney Pills not only give quick relief to suffering from kidney trouble, but cure it permanently.
"That Mr. Vailancourt had kidney disease everyone here knows. What is cured is also established beyond doubt. Dodd's Kidney Pills, did it. My back has been sore, also my heart and my kidneys. Mr. Vailancourt states it giving his experience. Now all that is gone and he is a sound healthy man. Do you wonder that he recommends Dodd's Kidney Pills?"
Dodd's Kidney Pills cure quickly and permanently kidney troubles. They act directly on the kidneys. They never fail to cure.

A six-year-old was seated in a barber's chair. "Well, my little man, how would you like your hair cut?"
"Oh, like papa's, with a little round hole on the top."

Minard's Liment Cures Diarrhoea.
Subtlety may deceive you; Integrity never—Crownright.

A Poor Weak Woman

As she is termed, will endure briefly and patiently disease which a strong man would give up. The fact is women are more patient than ought to be under such troubles.
Every woman ought to know that she may obtain the most experienced medical advice free of charge and in absolute confidence from the World's Dispensary Medical Association, R. V. Pierce, M. D., President, who has been chief consulting physician of the Invalids' Hotel and Hospital for many years in New York, for many years and has had a wider practical experience in the treatment of women's diseases than any other physician in this country. His medicines are world-famous for their efficacy.

IT MARKS WOMEN STRONG

The most perfect rest ever devised for weak and delicate women is Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription.

SICK WOMEN WELL.

The many and varied symptoms of women's peculiar ailments are fully set forth in Plain English in a new and revised and up-to-date Edition, third-hand, will be sent on receipt of 50 cent stamps to pay cost of wrapping and mailing only. Address as above.

A Warm Bathroom

PERFECTION

Every mother should be careful that the children take their baths in a warm room. The chill of a cold room is dangerous after coming out of the hot water.

A Perfection Smokeless Oil Heater burns bath-room or bedroom to just the degree of warmth you want in five or ten minutes. All you have to do is to touch a match.

The Perfection Heater burns nine hours on one filling and is always ready for use. You can move it anywhere it is needed. There is no noise of fuel and heat warms unoccupied rooms. Just the heat you want, when and where you want it.

The Perfection is fitted with an automatic-locking flame spreader that prevents the wick being turned high enough to smoke and is easy to remove and set.

Plains for heat in tungsten-burner or plain steel and light material, yet strong and durable—suitable for any room in any house.

The Imperial Oil Company, Limited

ADAMS SLEIGHTS AND BRANTFORD CARRIAGES

Better Proportioned, Better Finished and Stronger Throughout Than Any Other Make

Colored Teeth
Pearly teeth are not the fashion everywhere. Recently a number of small manufacturers who have an export trade, have been in such a state of alarm that they have been in the habit of coloring their teeth black. There is a steady demand for black teeth in Spain, Java, Russia and Persia, the teeth must be absolutely milk-white. Recently an order was received from Bhavnagar, in India, for some bright red, and also artificial teeth. Smokers' teeth are regularly supplied to dentists in shades of tooth which have been destroyed by nicotine.

To have the children sound and healthy is the first care of a mother. They cannot be healthy if troubled with worms. Use Mother Grew's Worm Exterminator.

Marriage in Burma
In Burma marriage is civil, not religious and is regarded as a partnership which, if not happy, may be dissolved at will. The custom of marriage there is no outward symbol like a wedding ring on the bride's finger. She does not even adopt her husband's family name, but retains her own. The husband has no right over the property which his wife possesses, but she has no right over the property which he might acquire. The husband is not just security, but can appear in law courts to represent her husband. In contrast with this, in our country, the husband and wife are one person. When they are married, they are one person. They are one person. They are one person.

Inevitable Fate.
An old and well-known story of a young lady, her friends observed her husband and wife can sign deeds and other legal documents. When there is no longer any love between a married couple they are divorced.

Shipwreck Today
"Captain, is there much danger?"
"Not a particle." A moving picture outfit will soon be along and record the shipwreck of the ship. The ship is in danger. The ship is in danger. The ship is in danger.

Through indiscretion in eating green fruit in summer many children are made subject to chronic diarrhoea caused by irritating acids that act violently on the lining of the intestine. Parents and mothers, therefore, and the delicate system of the child suffers under the strain. In such cases the safest and surest medicine is Dr. J. C. Kellogg's Dysentery Diarrhoea. It will check the inflammation and save the child's life.

Intelligence.
"That fellow is a positive joker."
"Relative of your wife or holding a better job than you?"

A Poor Weak Woman

PERFECTION

SOVEREIGN

AGENTS WANTED

THE F. E. KARN CO., LIMITED,

DISEASED BY MIN-D. DEAN,

Unalutahs

Minard's Liment Cures Diarrhoea.

Street Through a Church

Minard's Liment Cures Diarrhoea.

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Minard's Liment Cures Diarrhoea.

CRACKER

COMPLEMENTS

Makes a Bad Cough Vanish

Quickly—or Money Back

The Quickest, Surest Cough Remedy

You Ever Used. Family Supply for

See You See You

Minard's Liment Cures Diarrhoea.

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ABOUT RIDEAU HALL.

Originally Built in 1838 by Thomas McKay—It is a National Shrine.

Rideau Hall, Ottawa.

Minard's Liment Cures Diarrhoea.

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Minard's Liment Cures Diarrhoea.

H. H. NIGHTINGALE

STOCK-BROKER

Investment and Loans Negotiated

31 MELINDA ST., TORONTO

Kindred Feeling

Minard's Liment Cures Diarrhoea.

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BANK OF HAMILTON

Capital Paid Up.....\$2,500,000
Reserve and Undivided Profits.....\$250,000
Total Assets.....\$2,750,000

It is not easy to alter the habits of a lifetime—no small matter to forsake extravagance and learn to save.

You will never learn unless you have the incentive of a Savings Account.

Do not procrastinate—call at the Bank of Hamilton—and open an account.

Cayley Branch - JAMES LYALL, Agent



Head Office
HAMILTON

Heating Stove Season

Is here again. We may get a cold snap any day. It would be wise to come in and select a good Heater from our stock and keep your home warm and cheery.

Have you seen our Famous BASE BURNERS
They are Fuel Savers

ELVES BROS. Hardware and Furniture

WHY NOT

Have a little comfort in driving when you can get a good warm Robe to cover your knees and a Carriage Heater to keep your feet warm, also Blankets for your horses, all at reasonable prices.

J. W. BRADLEY

Harness Maker, Cayley

JEWELRY

It will pay you to drop a line to

B. E. BLACK, Calgary

and get our new Catalogue. It makes Gift giving easy, and contains suggestions for all your friends.

D. E. Black

Mfg. Jeweler and Optician
116A 8th Ave. E., CALGARY

C. C. CHUMLEY

Livory, Feed Exchange Stables

DRAWING

Licensed Auctioneer.

Cayley Restaurant

IMPORTED

Fancy China Handkerchiefs

Best Ladies' and Gents'

Fancy Presents Children's Toys
of all kinds

Confectionery and Nuts

of all kinds

China Lilies Fresh Oysters

Fancy Xmas Crackers

Kwong Lung, Prop.

CLARESHOLM
Lumber & Grain Co.
(LIMITED.)

Cayley Yards

All kinds of

Lumber and Building Material

Brick, Lime, Cement, Etc.

J. C. SLATER, Manager.

Cayley Hotel

W. A. BOURDON, Prop.

Rates, \$1.50 per day

Wanted

A live representative for

CAYLEY, ALBERTA

and surrounding district to sell Hardy Nursery Stock for "Canada's Greatest Nurseries." Splendid list of hardy varieties, tested and recommended by the Western Experimental Stations. Send for terms and circulars showing what we have already done in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta Bay weekly. Free outfit and exclusive territory.

STONE & WELLINGTON,

Toronto, Ont.

Local News

Watch Cayley grow.

Subscribe now for the Hustler. For first class job printing try the Hustler.

Thursday, Dec. 21st, will be the shortest day of the year.

Bushfield.—At Red Willows, on Saturday, Dec. 16th, to the Rev. and Mrs. F. Bushfield, a son.

Chas. Nelson expects to leave this week for Bernoville, Minn., to be gone for the winter.

McMeekin & Scragg have just put in their store a very handsome silent salesman.

(Mrs. D.) Brown and little daughter is on a trip to her old home at Kingsmill, Kent Co., Ont.

Program for the Bible Class on Thursday night will be as follows: Doors open at 7 o'clock, checkers etc.; 7:30 to 8:30 choir practice; 8:30 study of Book of Ruth; 9 to 10 lecture on Education by Mr. Sanson, and discussion by the audience.

The application for the transfer of the license of the Cayley Hotel from C. W. Kenna to W. A. Bourdon comes up before the license commissioners at Calgary on Friday, the 22nd inst. There seems to be considerable opposition locally to this transfer, and both sides are working hard for and against.

The sermon subjects in the Presbyterian hall on Sunday will be as follows: At 11 a.m., "The Christian's Ideal"; at 7:30 p.m., "Why Give Gifts?" The Bible School subject at 10:15 is, "Rebuking and Encouraging Israel," Malachi 3, 7-18. The Bible school subject for next year is the Life of Christ, according to the synoptic gospels. Anyone who has anything on the Life of Christ should get it out and begin to get ready for this most interesting series of lessons.

The last meeting of the present L. Imp. Board for this district met on Monday in the Presbyterian hall. Much business was transacted.

Municipal election matters are very quiet, both in the village and district. Some rumors are afloat, but at present the dark horses are keeping well in the background.

Mr. E. S. Elves expects to leave here for Winnipeg on Thursday, where he joins his parents for Christmas, and then accompanies them home to Southampton, Ont. for new year's.

By the way the children are practicing we shall expect some thing pretty good at the Christmas night entertainment. If past entertainments are anything to go by, this next one will be a record-breaker, so don't miss it.

At the week night session of the Bible Class, the studies in the Book of Ruth were begun. These will continue for a couple of weeks, when any subject suggested will be used. Last week the special committee put on a debate, viz., "Resolved, that the cash system is better than the credit system." The negative side won. Those for cash were Messrs. Johnson and Bradley, and for credit Messrs. Barnes and J. Elves. This week, Mr. Sanson, Inspector of Schools, will lecture, and all who have any thing to suggest for the improvement of the school system in this district are asked to come and state their case.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Eversman and family left last week for a visit to their old home at Burlington, Iowa, U.S., which, we trust, they will enjoy. Mr. Eversman is amongst Cayley's largest farmers, being owner of the old Ross ranch comprising five sections, about 12 miles east of Cayley. The present fall he has threshed over 40,000 bushels of wheat and oats which graded a good standard. He also owns a very fine bunch of horses and cattle. It is a very notable sight these days to see his three four-horse teams drawing grain to town in large tanks each holding over 240 bushels of oats which weigh from 45 to 48 lbs. to the bushel. Mr. Eversman is certainly making good again this year.

The Teachers Training Class of the Methodist and Presbyterian churches will not meet again until the first week of the new year. Young people aged 13 and over are eligible for membership and are requested to pass in their names to the secretary, Miss Bertha E. Smith, together with 25c, which covers the entire cost of the Canadian First Standard Teacher Training Course. Will those of both churches please register their names with Miss Smith at once in order to be in readiness to attend the first lesson in the new year. The above course covers about fifteen months and candidates passing examinations are entitled to a certificate for each examination and a diploma at the end of the course. The pastors of both churches are presidents of the class and will give attention to the same weekly.

Caring for the Stranger

Mrs. Bergen jumped at the chance. And just as certainly the chance jumped at her. She was leaving a neighbor's with two rosy-cheeked children when the woman accosted her and almost before she had time to think she had promised to take two children to board. The woman thanked her, almost with tears.

"I've heard tell o' you from the girl that works at Lawwell's, where I do," she said, "an' she told me how kind you was, an' how well

you keep your children. I was just about to come to your house when I met you. I was desperate. Miss Lawwell's been kind as kin' let me keep 'em there. Of course, it's to come out o' my wages. But she's been after me to find a place for 'em. The lams ain't no trouble, but—well, anyway, she wants me to find a place for 'em. An' I thank God I done it. About money, Miz Bergen, could you wait till the 20th? My month's up then. That's eleven days."

"The 20th will do," said Mrs. Bergen.

"Then I'll bring the young ones to-night, an' thank you again, ma'am."

Mrs. Bergen was not unthankful herself. The \$20 would solve some problems for her. She hated to break the news to Mr. Bergen. When a man has been ill for three months with inflammatory rheumatism, chafing at the enforced idleness, wincing at the noise of his own children, it is a little awkward to announce the arrival of two more. But at last she told him, presenting the case as diplomatically as possible.

"It's a godsend to her and to me both," she said. "She's come all the way from Misuree to meet her husband an' his trail some ways. She's a frail creature, an' she's gone to service at Lawwell's. She's got a good place there, that's one thing. She was so relieved I'd take 'em. Kitty Mullen spoke up about me. She remembered me takin' the Trench young ones four years ago, when their mother died."

She paused, but Mr. Bergen did not speak.

"But glad as I am for her, Cyrus, I'm a glad gladder for us. Little 'Cy' that been on a velocipede, you wouldn't believe! He can't talk nuthin' else. He wants one like the Jones boy—rubber tired, spring seat an' all. They're \$5. I priced 'em, though I hadn't no hopes of getting one. An' Myrtle—bless her!—her doll an' dishes'll eat up another five. That leaves ten to pay the grocer an' everything else can wait. Thank God we'll have a merry Christmas after all."

Mr. Bergen did not take it as she had feared. He seemed as thankful as she.

"I'll tide us over till I'm better," he said. "I've lain here a-thinkin' of Christmas till I thought I should go mad. They've always had such a lot of things that they wouldn't a known what to make of Santa Claus cutting 'em down."

That night the strangers came, a boy and girl, another little "wigan pair," as Mr. Bergen said. They were shy at first, but soon became at home. They were good children. Mrs. Bergen's busy

hands were not much busier than before. And the thought of the big \$20, coming just five days before Christmas, would have made her willing to "work her fingers to the bone," as she expressed it. The days fairly flew, as the days before the holidays have a habit of doing. The 20th came around and promptly in the evening the little mother appeared. Tightly clasped in her hand was the talisman which had opened a stranger's doors. She passed it over.

"I was that skeered o' losin' it," she said, "that I couldn't bear it out o' my hand."

Mrs. Bergen smiled. "I expect that's how I'll feel about it," she said, and she did. She changed its hiding place again and again that night, thinking at every sound a robber had scented her secreted wealth.

The next night, as they sat around the fire, she had the children tell once more their wishes for Santa Claus. She was oblivious to the fact that two more eager-eyed listeners heard the Christmas tales and wishes, till a small voice piped up, "Us won't get nuthin' from Santa Claus this year, mother says, cause she forgot to tell him where us lives."

"Nothing?" Mrs. Bergen echoed.

The small boy squared his shoulders and came forward into the light.

"Me and Daisy don't care. Mother'll tell him next Christmas."

And thus was a little drop of bitterness thrust into Mrs. Bergen's cup of joy. It hurt. The brave little voice, with its hint of restrained tears, came to her again and again. It rang in her ears in the day and in the night. Yet it never dawned that other and dearer voice, "Tell him, ma, a 'velocipede like Billy Jones'—just like it, with rubber tires."

She made list after list. The money would go only so far. The grocer's payment could not be curtailed. The Christmas, supplies, even the turkey, were to come from him. Ten for the grocer; five for the velocipede. That left five. Two and a half more were for Myrtle's doll and dishes. And the rest—she begged the thought to her heart—was to buy the books which would lighten Mr. Bergen's weary hours.

There was nothing she could do. She felt it the day before Christmas even, when she bade the children good-bye and left a neighbor's girl in charge. No, there was nothing she could do. They expected nothing; they would not be disappointed. "Us won't hang up no stocks," the little boy had explained.

She tried to shake the thought off as she walked along, but it clung to her. Even when she found herself in the toy shop with all its wealth or toys, the insistent little voice whispered pathetically in her ear, "Us won't get nuthin' from Santa Claus this year."

But, all of a sudden, with a rush of joy, it came to her that they would; that four little full stockings would hang by the fireplace Christmas eve; that, share and share alike, even as if they were her own, the money should be spent. And the care and worry told from her like a garment that is old. The ghost of the sad little voice was laid. In its place she seemed to hear many voices singing the old, old song that the shepherds heard, "Peace on earth, good will to men."

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